

Master Syllabus

HIS 1111 - Western Civilization I

Division: Liberal Arts, Communication and Social Sciences

Department: History

Credit Hour Total: 3.0

Lecture Hrs: 3.0

Date Revised: June 2014

Course Description:

Major trends in the development of Western culture, emphasizing political, economic, social and cultural achievements, from prehistory to the seventeenth century.

General Education Outcomes:

- ▣ Oral Communication
- ▣ Written Communication
- ▣ Critical Thinking/Problem Solving
- ▣ Values/Citizenship/Community
- ▣ Computer Literacy
- ▣ Information Literacy

Course Outcomes:

Historical facts and arguments

Articulate historical arguments in a variety of forms of communication. Communicate the significance of historical facts, concepts and ideas in spoken and written English that is clear, precise, and logical.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric.

Assessment Method: Performance appraisals

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric.

Assessment Method: Portfolios

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric.

Analysis of texts

Apply critical thinking to analyze primary and secondary sources (i.e. historical analysis of text), scholarly historical monographs, biographies, and syntheses, -and use them to construct well-organized, well-argued historical accounts.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Express in written examinations an analysis of primary and secondary historical texts concerning Western civilization. Meets 70% of rubric.

Assessment Method: Portfolios

Performance Criteria: Demonstrate ability to research in primary and secondary texts and write an original analysis of an historical problem concerning Western civilization. Meets 70% of rubric.

Historical events

Explain the causes, effects and relevance of specific historical events and/or periods within the broader historical context. Describe specified Western political, social, cultural, and economic institutions from pre-history to the seventeenth century.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Analyze and explain in writing the changes in Western social, political, religious, and cultural institutions throughout this period. Meets 70% of rubric.

Assessment Method: Portfolios

Performance Criteria: Analyze and explain selected topics concerning Western social, political, religious, and cultural institutions in oral presentations. Meets 70% of rubric.

Historical interpretations

Articulate diverse historical interpretations. Evaluate specified historical interpretations of these institutions and developments.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric.

Assessment Method: Portfolios

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric.

Historical concepts and approaches

Clearly demonstrate understanding and application of basic historical concepts, methodologies, and approaches.

Assessment Method: Locally developed exams

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric.

Assessment Method: Performance appraisals

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric.

Assessment Method: Portfolios

Performance Criteria: Meets 70% of rubric.

Outline:

Pre-history: Mesopotamia, Egyptians, Hebrews, Persians
Hellenic Greeks and the Greek Polis
Classical Age and Greek Culture
Alexander and Hellenistic Diffusion
Romans, early Roman Republic: growth and conflict
Roman Empire
Decline of Rome
The Spread of Christianity in the west
The Making of Europe
Serf, Knight, Monk and Priest: the cultural life of Europe
Europe in the High Middle Ages
Renaissance Political and Economic Change
Renaissance Art and Society
Reformation
Counter Reformation
The Evolution of Centralized Monarchies
Thirty Years' War and the Transition to Modernity